

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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60

ORIGIN EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 SS-15 NSC-10 INR-10 CPR-02 RSC-01 /064 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/NE: JBECELIA:CN

7/19/73 EXT. 21562

APPROVED BY P - AMBASSADOR PORTER

EUR/NE - MR. GEORGE

EUR - MR. SPRINGSTEEN

S/PC - MR. THORNTON

S/S - MR. GAMMON

WHITE HOUSE - MR. KISSINGER

----- 101867

R 311845Z JUL 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY VALLETTA

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 150184

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP, MT, US

SUBJECT: REQUEST BY MINTOFF TO VISIT WASHINGTON

REFERENCE: A. VALLETTA 891 B. STATE 95134

C. VALLETTA 1463 D. VALLETTA 1488

E. STATE 144344

1. REFERRING TO MINTOFF'S REQUEST AND OUR INTERIM REPLY (REFS A AND B), EMBASSY IS INSTRUCTED TO INFORM PRIME MINISTER THAT WE REGRET PRESIDENT IS UNABLE TO SEE HIM.

2. BY WAY OF EXPLANATION, YOU SHOULD MENTION HEAVY DEMANDS ON PRESIDENT'S SCHEDULE AND COMPLICATING FACTOR OF HIS RECENT ILLNESS. WE GATHER FROM EMBASSY'S RECENT REPORTING (REFS C AND D) THAT MINTOFF APPARENTLY NOT EXPECTING TO BE RECEIVED BY PRESIDENT. YOU MAY, THEREFORE, CONSIDER IT SUFFICIENT TO OFFER MATTER-OF-FACT RESPONSE WITH LITTLE EMBELLISHMENT ON EXPLANATION. IN ANY EVENT, YOU SHOULD TAKE CARE NOT RPT NOT TO ELABORATE ON EXPLANATION TO EXTENT MINTOFF ENCOURAGED TO BELIEVE INVITATION STILL MAY BE IN CONFIDENTIAL

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OFFING. IF PRESSED, YOU SHOULD INDICATE THAT WASHINGTON

INSTRUCTIONS GAVE NO REASON TO EXPECT DIFFERENT OUTCOME IF
EFFORT RENEWED IN NEAR TERM. WE REALIZE THIS MAY NOT GO
DOWN WELL WITH MINTOFF, BUT FEEL IT NEEDLESSLY EXACERBATING
TO LEAD HIM TO MAKE NEW REQUESTS TO WHICH WE UNPREPARED
ACCEDE IN FORESEEABLE FUTURE. ROGERS

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NNN

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